Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I want an answer to my question. Is it because suitable candidates in other communities are not available ?

Mr. C. Matthai.—We do not go by caste or communal consideration in the selection of examiners. As it is, they all are honourable men. The Government choose the best qualified men.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is the qualification that the Government take into consideration?

Mr. C. Matthai.—Examination qualification, reliability and various other considerations.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Member for Education say whether he has looked into the whole field of qualified men?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What are the qualifications looked into the selection of Examiners ?

President.—Mr. Salem, you have no place here.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The Government appoints certain men of confidence and of the best qualification. These are confidential matters, and it is not possible for the Government to reveal them.

Facilities to Journalists.

444. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform whether any orders have been passed with regard to the representations made to the Government by the Cochin Journalists' Association or with reference to the observations made in the last session of the Legislative Council with reference to giving better facilities to journalists in discharging their duties ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Final orders have not yet been passed.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Whether the matter has been considered by the Government and at what stage it is at present?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Information has been collected as to the procedure adopted in different Native States, and it is proposed to arrange a conference with the members of the deputation very soon, and orders will be finally passed after that.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Whether any order has yet been passed?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No final orders have been passed.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Any orders passed ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I do not understand the question.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I mean something like that.

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Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That does not concern the House.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—It does not concern the House? I say it does.

President.—Why do you want an intermediate order? Final orders have not been passed. The necessary materials are being collected, and the matter is being considered.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—If the Hon'ble Member had given that answer, I would not have asked for any other.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I have given that answer. "Materials are being collected, and it is proposed to hold a conference, and final orders will be passed after that". That was my answer.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Whether the Government will be pleased to furnish copies of the Council Proceedings to the editors of the papers free as in British India?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That is a matter regarding which orders have to be passed. It will be disposed of along with that question.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government dispose it off early?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes. We do not delay matters more than what is absolutely necessary.

President.—We do not purposely delay any matter.

The subordinate staff of the Government Press.

445. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. has the Diwan received any petition from the subordinate staff of the Government Press, Ernakulam, regarding their privilege leave, pay, pension, etc.;

2. does the Government intend to do anything for them as recommended by the Special Committee appointed for the purpose of investigating into their grievances;

3. are the task-workers in the Press entitled to get their pay on casual leave days; what is the rule in the matter; is the rule strictly adhered to; if not, how is the pay now calculated?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—1. Yes.

2. The Government have accepted most of the recommendations of the Committee, and have done all that is possible to better the condition of the Press employees. The task-workers in the Cochin Government Press are much better off already than their confreres elsewhere, e. g., the permanent piece-workers of the Madras Government Press.

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